



The Big Sky Country

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May 26, 2006

Mr. Max H. Dodson
Assistant Regional Administrator
U. S. EPA Region 8
999 18th Street- Suite 300
Denver, CO 80202-8917

Subject: LATAG Request Letter of March 10, 2006

Dear Mr. Dodson:

I recently obtained a copy of the request letter sent to you by Ms. Gayla Benefield of the Libby Area TAG and a copy of your response letter to her dated April 13, 2006. First let me say that I very strongly support the position taken by EPA in your response to the various requests made by the LATAG in the letter. It is important to the community and area that information be made available to all concerned on a timely basis as you advise because the LATAG does not have representation within its membership of many different interest groups that represent the area and community as a whole.

It is also very important that a "final" ROD for OU4 be issued so that there is conclusion to the problems associated with the site even though it is understood that certain aspects of investigation and remedial efforts may require modification as new information develops over the course of time.

I also believe that another task force or working group would not serve any useful purpose at this time and could conceivably be counter productive. The process as laid out and implemented by EPA appears to be gaining momentum and improving in efficiency with each segment of the remediation & communication efforts that are commenced. It would not appear to be advantageous to risk slowing down the progress being made at this time.

Thank you for your efforts and I look forward to meeting you as the opportunity presents itself in the future.

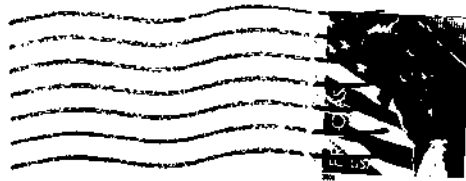
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ralph Heinert".
Ralph Heinert
Representative House District #1

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